

ABSTRACT

A piezoelectric bending actuator that is insensitive to temperature changes. The
5 actuator includes a pair of piezoelectric layers. One of the layers bends in response to
an applied voltage and the other piezoelectric layer flattens in response to an applied
voltage. The piezoelectric layers are mounted adjacent to each other. The
piezoelectric layers move opposite to each other in response to a change in
temperature such that the piezoelectric bending actuator is stable over a range of
10 temperatures. The piezoelectric layers are held in compression between a ring and a
retainer. Compressing the piezoelectric layers allows the bending actuator to have a
high stroke with improved durability because the discs are kept in compression.